...9 YEARS, RIGHT?

YOU'VE CHANGED,

ELLIE.

AND YOU HAVEN'T.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

BLOOD BANK

Third chapter
Carnival

- play 44 -

I HEARD YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING DOCTOR UNDER THE NAME "BURKE".

THE LIFE YOU WERE SEEKING AFTER THROWING EVERYTHING ASIDE...

IS THIS IT?

THE PERSON YOU'RE WAITING FOR...

...IS NEVER COMING, YOU KNOW.

....

...I KNOW.

NOW~
I ASSUME YOUR LITTLE CHAT'S FINISHED?

SO, WHAT DO YOU PREFER? I CAN DICE YOU, BURN YOU, HANG YOU... ANYTHING YOU WANT!

I CAN DO WHATEVER YOU...

HOW BORING.

THUD

DRIP

DRIP

SLUMP

GASP...

IS THIS...THE END?

HUMPTY DUMPTY.
MY POOR FRIEND,
MY LITTLE BROTHER...

LEAVING YOU BEHIND IN YOUR TIMELESS FORM...
I'M SURE YOU'LL NEVER FORGIVE ME.

BUT,
I STILL HAVE SOMETHING TO...
SAY, DON'T I?

I STILL,
I STILL...

THIS IS ENOUGH.

I'M SORRY
I FORCED YOU INTO THIS LIFE,
ERIC.

BUT,
YOU LIVING ON IS ALL
I CAN EVER ASK FOR.

I'LL FINALLY BE BY YOUR SIDE.

MY BELOVED WHITE ROSE.

FINALLY...

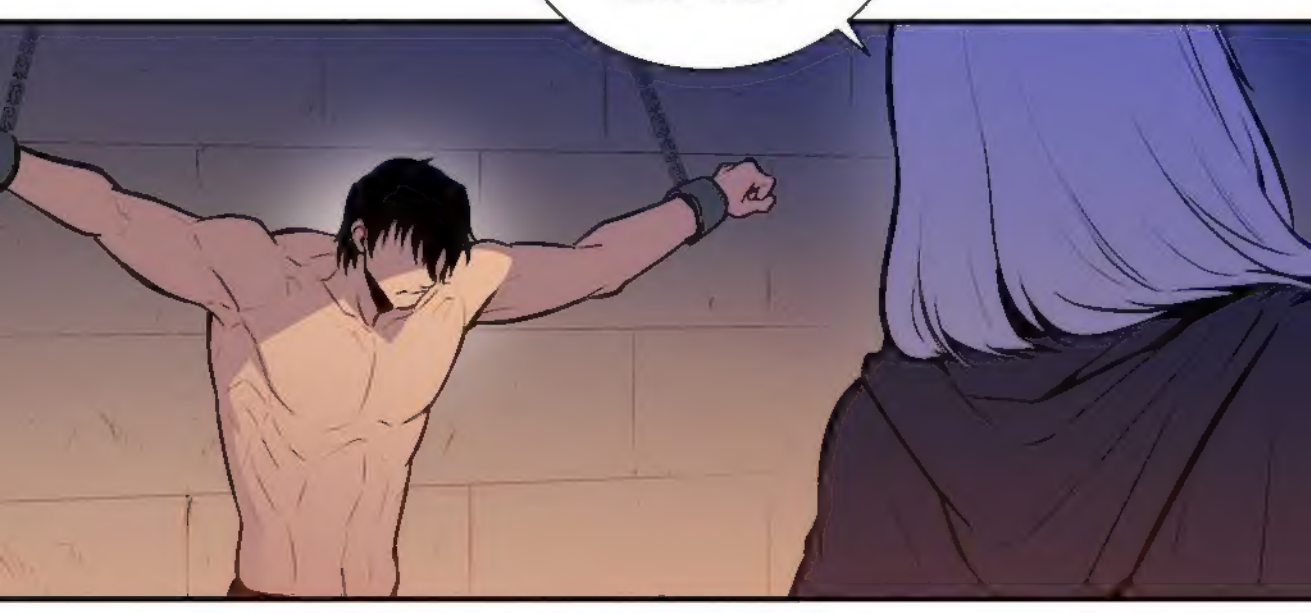
...AFTER THAT,

WE FOUND OUT IT WAS A YOUNG BOY THAT TRIED TO SELL THE POCKET WATCH.

YOUR GREED IS WHAT LED ME TO ELLIE.

AND YOUR COWARDICE IN ABANDONING YOUR FATHER IS WHAT LET YOU LIVE SO FAR.

HOW DOES IT FEEL, ERIC? HAVING YOUR PITIFUL PAST EXPOSED LIKE THIS?



SAVE YOUR BREATH.

YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO...

CLICK

HEY~ I'M BACK~!

AHH~ I FEEL ALL HOT AND SWEATY JUST BEING AROUND THE RESIDUAL PHEROMONES~!

CLINK

ALRIGHT, LET SOME MORE OUT!

WE STILL NEED A LOOOOT MORE OF YOUR PHEROMONES YOU SEE.

DON'T HOLD BACK, JUST LET IT LOOSE~

UGH...!

DAMN...

IT...

CREAK

...I WAS SURPRISED.

BY WHAT?

THAT KID. I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE HIM OR SOMETHING...

I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE HE'S NOT ELLIE, HUH?

... ...

...HE DIED.

THAT DAY...

AND THE "ME" THAT LOVED HIM DIED THAT DAY TOO.

IT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST...

WE CAN'T GO BACK NOW...

...I CAN'T GO BACK NOW.

WHY IS IT THAT YOU'RE HERE AGAIN?

MM...!

FLINCH

AH, AH...

AHH...

CREAK

CREAK

AHHH...!

IN THIS DREAM
I'VE ENCOUNTERED MANY TIMES..

YOU FEEL MORE
AND MORE REAL...

...AND EVERYTIME,
I REALIZE IT'S JUST
A DREAM.

!!

AND ONLY
MY PAST DESIRES...

CONTINUE TO...

...I'M SICK OF THIS DREAM.

I DIDN'T WANT TO END IT.

I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU BEHIND!

CALL ME BY MY REAL NAME...!

I...!

I WANT TO FEEL THE REAL YOU!!

SMACK

... .

AH...

GHO...ST...?

SHING

YOU WILL DIE TODAY.

To be continued

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